

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

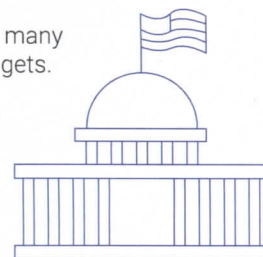
Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



It's about fair representation.

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.

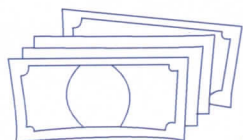


It's in the Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790.



It means \$675 billion.



Census data determine how more than \$675 billion are spent, supporting your state, county and community's vital programs.

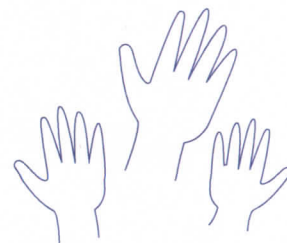


It's about redistricting.

After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.

Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



INFORMACIÓN BÁSICA SOBRE EL CENSO: LO QUE USTED NECESITA SABER

¡El Censo del 2020 está más cerca de lo que usted cree!
Esto es un repaso rápido de lo que es y de por qué es esencial
que todos sean contados.

Todos cuentan.

El censo cuenta a todas las personas que viven en los Estados Unidos una vez, solo una vez y en el lugar correcto.

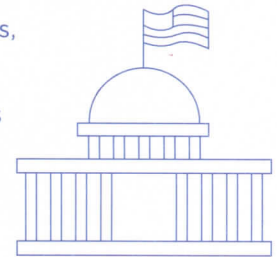


Está en la Constitución.

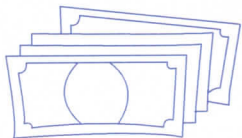
La Constitución de los EE. UU. ordena que cada 10 años se cuente a todas las personas que están en el país. El primer censo se llevó a cabo en 1790.

Se trata de una representación justa.

Cada 10 años, los resultados del censo se usan para llevar a cabo la redistribución proporcional de la Cámara de Representantes, determinando cuántos representantes recibe cada estado.



Se trata de \$675 mil millones.



La distribución de más de \$675 mil millones de fondos federales, subsidios y apoyo a los estados, condados y comunidades se basa en los datos del censo.

Ese dinero se usa para escuelas, hospitales, carreteras, obras públicas y otros programas vitales.

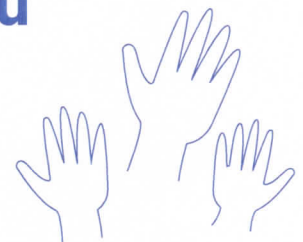


Se trata de la redistribución legislativa.

Luego del censo de cada década, los funcionarios estatales redefinen los límites de los distritos legislativos congresionales y estatales en sus estados para reflejar los cambios en la población.

Participar es su deber cívico.

Completar el censo es obligatorio. Es una manera de participar en nuestra democracia y decir "¡YO CUENTO!".



The 2020 Census and Confidentiality

Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics—they cannot be used against you in any way. By law, all responses to U.S. Census Bureau household and business surveys are kept completely confidential.

Respond to the 2020 Census to shape the future.

Responding to the census helps communities get the funding they need and helps businesses make data-driven decisions that grow the economy. Census data impact our daily lives, informing important decisions about funding for services and infrastructure in your community, including health care, senior centers, jobs, political representation, roads, schools, and businesses. More than \$675 billion in federal funding flows back to states and local communities each year based on census data.



Your census responses are safe and secure.

The Census Bureau is required by law to protect any personal information we collect and keep it strictly confidential. The Census Bureau can only use your answers to produce statistics. In fact, every Census Bureau employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life. Your answers cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine your personal eligibility for government benefits.

By law, your responses cannot be used against you.

By law, your census responses cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way—not by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), not by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), not by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and not by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The law requires the Census Bureau to keep your information confidential and use your responses only to produce statistics.



The law is clear—no personal information can be shared.

Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the Census Bureau cannot release any identifiable information about individuals, households, or businesses, even to law enforcement agencies.

The law states that the information collected may only be used for statistical purposes and no other purpose.

To support historical research, Title 44 of the U.S. Code allows the National Archives and Records Administration to release census records only after 72 years.

All Census Bureau staff take a lifetime oath to protect your personal information, and any violation comes with a penalty of up to \$250,000 and/or up to 5 years in prison.

What to expect in the mail

When it's time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail. Every household will have the option of responding online, by phone, or by mail.

Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you'll receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

Letter invitation

- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking them to go online to complete the census questionnaire.
- We are working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we'll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

Letter invitation and paper questionnaire

- Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their package. The package will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

We understand that you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn't responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- If you don't respond online, by phone, or by mail, we will follow up in person.

What we will send you in the mail:



March 12-20

An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census.

(Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)



March 16-24

A reminder letter.



March 26-April 3

A reminder postcard.



April 8-16

A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.



April 20-27

A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.

For more information, visit:

2020CENSUS.GOV

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Census
2020**